GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4774
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2002
LEVYING CESS FROM MUMBAI COMMUTERS
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board has finally decided to start levying cess from Mumbai commuters;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be started;

(c) whether the Government propose to start cess after some progress in MRVC;

(d) whether commuters organizations and Members of Parliamenthave requested that cess be levied only after benefits are made available to commuters; and

(e) if so, the details about the cess and Government's viewpoint and response thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)
(a) to (e) : A Statement is attached.
STATEMENTREFERREDTO IN REPLYTO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARREDQUESTIONNO.4774 BY SHRIKIRITSOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 19.12.2002 REGARDING LEVYING CESS FROM MUMBAI COMMUTERS
(a) to (c) : Mumbai Urban Transport Project is funded by World Bank.Levy of surcharge on Mumbai Suburban Commutersis as per World Bank's requirement and had been agreed to by the Government of Maharashtra and Ministry of Railways, who equally share the cost of the project. The surcharge may not be levied before the next financial year.
The total surcharge to be raised will be Rs. 2891 crores in a period of 14 years. Out of the amount so collected, 50% will be passed on to Government o f Maharashtra; balance 50% share of Indian Railways will be passed on to Ministry of Finance to enable repayment of the loan taken from World Bank.
(d): No such request has been received.
(e): Does not arise.